

Application No. 10/605,280
Docket No. A3-1662
Amendment dated November 15, 2005
Reply to Office Action of August 16, 2005

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Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0009] with the following amended paragraph:

Figures 1 and 2 represent the end 16 of the tube 10 as undergoing deformation with a tool 20 in accordance with a particular embodiment of the present invention. The tool 20 is shown as comprising a holder 22, an outer diameter (OD) die 24, and a mandrel 26. The mandrel 26 is located at one end of a shaft 28 secured within an internal bore 30 of the holder 22. The OD die 24 is tubular shaped and slidably received within the internal bore 30 of the holder 22. The OD die 24 has a stepped bore 32 within which the mandrel 26 ~~mandrel 24~~ is received. In this configuration, the position of the mandrel 26 relative to the holder 22 is fixed, while the position of the mandrel 26 relative to the die 24 varies as the die 24 is allowed to move within the holder 22, e.g., as the holder 22 is retracted in the direction of the arrow in Figure 1.

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Please replace paragraph [0011] with the following amended paragraph:

As evident from Figure 1, the mandrel 26 is preferably smaller in diameter than the enhancements 12 to be removed, and therefore does not alter the enhancements 12 during reduction of the tube end 16. However, Figure 2 shows the mandrel 26 as having ~~is having~~ roughly the same diameter as the circumference 14 within the reduced end 16 of the tube 10, such that removal of the mandrel 26 through the reduced end 16 of the tube 10 necessarily results in at least partial elimination, and preferably complete elimination, of the enhancements 12 within the reduced end 16 of the tube 10.

Please replace paragraph [0013] with the following amended paragraph:

While the invention has been described in terms of a specific embodiment, it is apparent that other forms could be adopted by one skilled in the art. For example, the tool 20 ~~the tool 10~~ could differ in appearance and construction from the embodiment shown in the Figures. Accordingly, it should be understood that the invention is not limited to the specific embodiment illustrated in the Figures. It should

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also be understood that the phraseology and terminology employed above are for the purpose of disclosing the illustrated embodiments, and do not necessarily serve as limitations to the scope of the invention. Therefore, the scope of the invention is to be limited only by the following claims.